

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently amended) A live bacterium preparation or food ~~containing a lactic acid bacterium~~ for prevention and treatment of gingivitis, periodontitis and periodontal disease, which comprises live cells of a lactic acid bacterium, *Lactobacillus salivarius* TI 2711 strain (FERM BP-7974), as an active ingredient.
3. (Currently amended) A live bacterium preparation or food ~~containing a lactic acid bacterium~~ for prevention or treatment of dental caries, which comprises live cells of a lactic acid bacterium, *Lactobacillus salivarius* TI 2711 strain (FERM BP-7974), as an active ingredient.
4. (Currently amended) A live bacterium preparation or food ~~containing a lactic acid bacterium~~ for prevention of halitosis and elimination of halitosis, which comprises live cells of a lactic acid bacterium, *Lactobacillus salivarius* TI 2711 strain (FERM BP-7974), as an active ingredient.
5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) A live cell obtained by pure culture of a lactic acid bacterium, *Lactobacillus salivarius* TI 2711 strain (FERM BP-7974).

8. (Currently amended) A dry live cell obtained by pure culture of a lactic acid bacterium, *Lactobacillus salivarius* TI 2711 strain (FERM BP-7974).

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended) A composition comprising a live lactic acid bacterium, *Lactobacillus salivarius* TI 2711 strain (FERM BP-7974), and an oral care drug, ~~and an active ingredient having a mechanism of action different from that of the strain.~~

11. (Currently amended) The composition according to claim 10, wherein the oral care ~~which comprises a lactic acid bacterium, *Lactobacillus salivarius* TI 2711 (FERM BP 7974), and a substance~~ drug is selected from the group consisting of sugar alcohols and oligosaccharides.

12. (Currently amended) The composition according to claim 11, ~~which comprises a lactic acid bacterium, *Lactobacillus salivarius* TI 2711 (FERM BP 7974), and~~ wherein the oral care drug is erythritol.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (New) An isolated strain of *Lactobacillus salivarius* TI 2711 strain (FERM BP-7974).